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STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

International assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 48/202 of 21 December 1993 the General Assembly called upon all parties to do their utmost to achieve the full and effective implementation of the Peace Accords for Angola, signed on 31 May 1991 (S/22609, annex), thus creating conditions conducive to the economic rehabilitation of the country. The Assembly expressed its appreciation to all donors for the emergency humanitarian assistance rendered to Angola and requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the international community, to continue to mobilize organizations and organs of the United Nations system in order to ensure an appropriate level of economic assistance for Angola. Furthermore, the Assembly welcomed the decision of the Government of Angola to organize a round-table conference of donors for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Angola, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the African Development Bank, the Government of Portugal and other interested countries. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the resolution.

2. The present report describes the humanitarian assistance activities carried out in Angola since the issuance of the previous report of the Secretary-General (A/48/473) in October 1993, with emphasis on the increase in activities noted after the signing of the Lusaka Protocol (S/1994/1441, annex) in November 1994 and the specific humanitarian requirements resulting from this peace accord. The report also outlines the humanitarian assistance activities foreseen in the near future.

3. The single most significant development during the reporting period was the signing of the Lusaka Protocol on 20 November 1994, whereby the Government of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) reaffirmed the validity of the Peace Accords for Angola and undertook, inter alia, to re-establish the cease-fire; demilitarize all UNITA military forces; disarm all civilians; complete the formation of the Forças Armadas Angolanas (FAA), including demobilization; integrate UNITA members in the Angolan National Police; implement UNITA participation in the central, provincial and local administration and in the diplomatic missions abroad; and complete the electoral process. To supervise the implementation of the various undertakings, the Lusaka Protocol set up a Joint Commission, chaired by the United Nations, with the two parties to the Protocol as members and the three observer countries to the Lusaka peace talks (Portugal, the Russian Federation and the United States of America) as observers.

4. Mr. José Eduardo dos Santos, the President of Angola, and Mr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, the President of UNITA, met at Lusaka on 6 May 1995 and at Franceville, Gabon, on 10 August 1995. In addition to the provisions of the Lusaka Protocol, the Government of Angola offered one of two positions as Vice-President of the Republic to UNITA. The constitutional amendments for the creation of these posts were passed by the National Assembly in mid-July.

5. By its resolution 976 (1995) of 8 February 1995, the Security Council authorized the establishment of a peace-keeping operation, the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III), to assist the parties in restoring

peace and achieving national reconciliation, with an initial mandate of six months and a maximum deployment of 7,000 military personnel, as well as 350 military observers and 260 police observers. As of 30 August 1995, 4,000 military personnel had been deployed in Angola. By its resolution 1008 (1995) of 7 August 1995, the Council extended the mandate of UNAVEM III until 8 February 1996.

6. In accordance with the report of the Secretary-General of 1 February 1995 (S/1995/97 and Corr.1 and Add.1), outlining the mandate of UNAVEM III, the Unit for Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (UCAH), which has been operational in Angola since March 1993, continues to serve as the coordinating body for all humanitarian operations. The Unit supports and coordinates the efforts of the operational agencies of the United Nations and various non-governmental organizations in relief and resettlement activities, rehabilitation, action related to land mines, and the demobilization and social and economic reintegration of former combatants. Two new offices have been created within the Unit to address the humanitarian requirements arising from the peace agreement: the Demobilization and Reintegration Office and the Central Mine Action Office. The Demobilization and Reintegration Office assists in organizing services for the demobilizing soldiers and programmes to facilitate their return to productive life in civilian society, while the Central Mine Action Office coordinates all activities relating to mines and other explosive devices so as to ensure the safest possible conditions for the deployment of United Nations personnel, the implementation of humanitarian assistance operations and the resumption of productive activities throughout the country. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, who, on behalf of the Secretary-General, exercises executive authority over all aspects of the United Nations operation in Angola, has established a variety of mechanisms to ensure efficient collaboration between UCAH and the military components of UNAVEM III in all areas of mutual concern.

II. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

A. Emergency assistance during the civil conflict

7. Following the resurgence of civil conflict in late 1992, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations transformed their reconstruction and development plans into emergency assistance programmes to meet the immediate needs of Angolans affected by the war. In March 1993, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs created UCAH as a field office to coordinate the work of the various agencies involved in the relief effort.

8. As of May 1993, 2 million Angolans were estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance. For most of 1993, access and security were the main issues affecting emergency relief programmes. The period through October 1993 was characterized by intense fighting throughout most of the country, a series of grave security incidents bringing death and injury to relief workers, and protracted and difficult negotiations on delivery plans and security guarantees. The result was a stop-and-go pattern of deliveries, and many locations, especially besieged cities such as Kuito, Huambo, Malange and Menongue, remained entirely inaccessible for many months. Conditions deteriorated daily in the

besieged cities, and an inestimable number of people died either as a direct result of the conflict or through starvation or related diseases. In mid-1993, more than 1,000 Angolans were believed to be dying each day; in Kuito alone, where some of the fiercest fighting was concentrated, 25,000 people are thought to have died in 1993.

9. In October 1993, a decrease in the level of fighting allowed new routes of access to be opened. United Nations aid officials managed to reach Kuito, where thousands of people were dying of starvation and the living conditions were horrific. A few days later, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations also started a large relief programme in Huambo. For the rest of the year, the emergency relief programme expanded throughout the country and considerable progress was made thanks to the increased involvement of international non-governmental organizations. Gains were also made in negotiations with both the Government and UNITA on questions of access following a mission to Angola by high-level officials of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs in early December. By the end of the year, the relief needs of the coastal areas and all major cities, including the once critical besieged cities, were being addressed.

10. Confirmation of donor pledges, previously delayed in coming, gave a much-needed impetus to the overall operation. Altogether, more than US$ 129 million was contributed by donors for humanitarian activities in Angola in 1993.

11. However, the overall situation remained fragile, with persistent security problems limiting access to several areas such as Dondo in Kwanza Norte province, Cubal in Benguela province and, particularly, the isolated cities of Malange and Kuito, where the security situation started deteriorating again in early 1994. Shelling and fresh outbreaks of fighting in Malange and Kuito during this period caused cancellations of relief flights to these cities and the temporary evacuation of relief workers from Kuito.

12. By early 1994, it was evident that humanitarian needs were far more serious than had been detailed in the United Nations consolidated appeal of May 1993. Malnutrition and mortality rates were exceedingly high, especially in the besieged cities and in newly accessed areas. In February 1994, under the coordination of UCAH, a revised appeal was prepared to cover needs until July 1994. This appeal, which included NGO projects for the first time, attracted international attention to the humanitarian situation in Angola and elicited immediate commitments from several Governments.

13. Starting in May 1994, military activities intensified sharply throughout the country. As a result, humanitarian programmes in places such as Uíge, Negage, Kuito, Malange and Huambo were curtailed. The period leading to the signing of the Lusaka Protocol, in November 1994, also witnessed increasing politicization of humanitarian activities by both sides. Flight clearances were issued selectively and proved to be of limited value. Thus, relief planes of the World Food Programme (WFP) and of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) were shot at in July 1994 in spite of such clearances. Under these circumstances, the focus of the emergency programme was to regain access to all previously accessible locations, especially Kuito and Malange, and to extend assistance to other locations that had not yet been reached.

14. As of mid-September 1994, the affected population was estimated at 3.6 million, representing an increase of 10 per cent since February 1994. This increase took place particularly in places close to the scene of intensified fighting and reflected the growing inability of both rural and urban populations to cope with the daily problems caused by the fighting, the collapse of social services and the unstable economic situation.

15. An updated appeal was launched in September 1994 to extend the emergency programme until the end of the year. Approximately US$ 158 million was pledged against the 1994 United Nations-NGO appeal, representing 83 per cent of the requirements.

16. Despite the increased insecurity and reduced access during the second half of 1994, the United Nations agencies and international and Angolan non-governmental organizations continued to provide substantial emergency assistance to the affected population. Owing to the persistent conflict, emergency supplies had to be airlifted to most of the country in what became the largest airlift operation in the world. From January to December 1994, WFP airlifted 110,000 tons of food aid and other relief goods to the besieged towns in the interior of Angola. The food aid operation peaked in November 1994, bringing 21,000 metric tons of food to some 2.2 million beneficiaries.

B. Developments following the signing of the Lusaka Protocol

1. General

17. Since the signing of the Lusaka Protocol in November 1994 and the establishment of the cease-fire in Angola, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations have reoriented their efforts towards supporting the peace process and addressing the lingering humanitarian effects of the past three years of civil conflict.

18. Under the coordination of UCAH, a United Nations consolidated inter-agency appeal for 1995 was prepared and distributed to donors in January 1995. It outlined funding needs totalling US$ 219 million for a three-tiered programme of emergency relief, mine action and the demobilization and reintegration of former combatants. In the appeal, approximately 3.2 million Angolans were estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance, including 1.1 million internally displaced persons, 100,000 potential returnees, 1.9 million conflict-affected persons and 90,000 combatants to be demobilized.

19. A donor consultation held at Geneva on 23 February seemed to bring a positive response from the international community. Based on statements made at the meeting, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs projected that close to 75 per cent of the appeal's requirements would be covered. However, actual contributions have been far below what was expected, particularly compared to the 1994 response and taking into consideration the present peace situation. As of August, only 23 per cent of the amount requested had been donated. In the non-food sector, delays in firm commitments had led to depletion of stocks, reducing the capacity for response.

2. Relief and resettlement

20. Since November 1994, the cease-fire has largely been holding, allowing increased freedom of circulation of people and goods. This new situation has enabled United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to extend their humanitarian and rehabilitation programmes to several previously inaccessible areas. The number of non-governmental organizations operating in Angola has nearly tripled since 1993, from some 40 at the end of that year to 115 (60 national and 55 international) in July 1995. The establishment of UNAVEM III outstations has been essential in ensuring access and security for the expansion of humanitarian operations to new areas.

21. Roads that had been closed for more than two years have been opened for humanitarian transport. As of the end of July 1995, passage was secured between Luanda and Lobito; from Lobito to Sumbe, Gabela and Quibala (Kwanza Sul province); from Lobito to Huambo and Kuito (Bié province), as well as to Menongue (Kuando Kubango province); and from Luanda to Ndalatando (Kwanza Norte province) and Malange. Road assessments have started east of Malange and on the road linking the provinces of Uíge and Kwanza Norte, with a view to expanding road access from Luanda to the provinces of Uíge, Lunda Norte, Lunda Sul and Moxico.

22. The opening of new roads has made it possible to deliver humanitarian assistance in a more cost-effective manner, reducing the need for expensive airlifts. However, airlifts are still required for provision of assistance to the provinces of Moxico, Lunda Sul, Lunda Norte, Uíge and Zaire, as well as for the southern parts of Kuando Kubango province.

23. As the nutritional situation improved as a result of road openings, easier access to land and markets and increased supply of food by the Government and commercial traders, the number of people served with WFP food decreased dramatically, reaching 1.1 million in July 1995. Simultaneous to the phase-out of general dry ration distributions, WFP has been promoting food-for-work schemes, most notably in support of de-mining efforts and the rehabilitation of infrastructure. In addition, WFP and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) continue to provide assistance to day-care centres run by the Ministry of Social Affairs and to assist the Government in its programmes to feed the most vulnerable groups.

24. It must be emphasized that there are still pockets of malnutrition, often related to access or security constraints. The crop and food supply assessment mission fielded by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and WFP in early May, noted some positive signs in the 1995 harvest, which, none the less, is still far below normal. A substantial improvement in the food supply as a result of the present peace situation can only be expected when the currently displaced populations have been able to return to their areas of origin and to plant and harvest. In the meantime, substantial food aid is still needed.

25. Humanitarian activities are now increasingly aimed at facilitating the resettlement and reintegration of internally displaced persons. Seminars held in July 1995 developed standard guidelines for assistance to displaced persons

returning to their place of origin, and several provinces have since prepared their respective plans of action. However, the return of the displaced is still limited by the threat of mines as well as localized resistance to the free movement of people. Spontaneous return of refugees has been reported from Zaire and Zambia; assistance is provided by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in collaboration with non-governmental organizations active in the areas of return.

26. The security environment for humanitarian personnel has gradually improved since the beginning of the year, thus facilitating the expansion of humanitarian activities. Unfortunately, this is not a universal trend, as there are still areas with limited freedom of movement and threats to the safety of international personnel.

27. While the main coordination responsibility for humanitarian assistance remains with UCAH, steps have been taken to create national institutions for this purpose. For example, a Humanitarian Coordination Group was set up in January 1995 to consider humanitarian priorities and questions of access. The Group is co-chaired by the Angolan Minister for Social Affairs and the UCAH Director, and comprises representatives of UNITA, United Nations agencies, the three observer countries, the European Union, ICRC and international and national non-governmental organizations. Coordination groups are also being created at the provincial level with responsibilities to plan, implement and monitor humanitarian activities, with emphasis on assistance to internally displaced persons.

Sectoral responsibilities of United Nations agencies

28. In its traditional role as the main channel for food aid, WFP has, throughout the reporting period, provided food commodities to its local and international NGO partners, at present numbering more than 60. WFP has also assumed responsibility for overall humanitarian logistics coordination, providing transport of both food and non-food aid through relief flights and road convoys. In addition, WFP manages five passenger planes, which are an essential means of transport for United Nations and NGO personnel. WFP has a permanent field presence, with staff in all major provincial capitals.

29. Throughout the same period, UNDP has continued to operate, on a 24-hour basis, the country-wide humanitarian communications network that it established in 1991. This radio network is used by all United Nations agencies and many non-governmental organizations and has been crucial for the logistical planning and coordination of the relief effort, for negotiations with the two parties on flight clearances and access, as well as for security purposes, including situations requiring evacuation of humanitarian personnel.

30. Towards the end of 1993, UNICEF moved into an emergency mode of operation, with emphasis on short-term high-impact interventions in four priority areas: emergency health care; nutrition and food security; access to potable water; and education. UNICEF has international field staff in 14 provinces and maintains rapid response teams in Luanda that are routinely dispatched to emergency sites. An important component of the UNICEF emergency programme has been the distribution of relief and survival assistance to the internally displaced. The

achievements of the programme include the containment of cholera and meningitis outbreaks in various parts of the country.

31. The massive vaccination of children against measles has been the flagship of the UNICEF emergency programme. In consultation with national health authorities and partner non-governmental organizations, UNICEF developed the Measles Plus Strategy and initiated vaccination in six accessible provincial capitals. Along with the Measles Plus Strategy, UNICEF emphasized the restoration of health facilities by supporting physical rehabilitation and re-equipment of peripheral health centres and posts, and training of health workers in basic services. Therapeutic and supplementary feeding support was also channelled through national health authorities and non-governmental organizations.

32. Following the signing of the Lusaka Protocol, UNICEF has been able to extend its vaccination activities to several previously inaccessible areas, in a joint effort with provincial government health authorities and UNITA. This is seen as an important achievement, both in terms of providing health care to affected populations and in terms of confidence building between the two parties.

33. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has developed a number of industrial rehabilitation programmes in areas such as wooden modular bridge reconstruction; fisheries; pharmaceutical production; agriculture and food industries; the policy and regulatory framework for small and medium-sized industries; and privatization and restructuring of state enterprises. These programmes stress the reinforcement of local implementing capacity and the training of local authorities.

34. Within the framework of the Finnish International Development Agency (FINNIDA)/Southern African Development Community (SADC)/World Meteorological Organization (WMO) meteorology project, assistance to the Angola National Meteorological Service includes the provision of fellowships, experts and consultants, and the supply and installation of meteorological instruments and equipment. Twelve fellowships were awarded in meteorology, data processing and equipment maintenance. Furthermore, an instructor in meteorology was fielded to organize and implement a training programme for meteorologists at the Mulemba Training School. Twenty-eight students completed the course. The cost of this project was approximately US$ 1.7 million.

3. Demobilization and reintegration

35. As a vital component of the Lusaka peace process, as many as 100,000 combatants, including 30,000 disabled and under-age soldiers, have to be demobilized and reintegrated into civilian life and productive activities. This will be one of the largest demobilizations ever carried out in the context of a peace-building effort.

36. When the Lusaka peace talks started in late 1993, UNDP and UCAH elaborated a strategy paper on demobilization and reintegration of former combatants. This document identified the limitations of the 1991/92 process and formulated the

leading principles of a future demobilization and reintegration programme: first, that the process should involve an important capacity-building component; and secondly, that the transition from demobilization to reintegration should be seamless.

37. In May 1994, UCAH created the Demobilization and Reintegration Office to help facilitate the transition to peace. The activities of the Office have thus far focused primarily, but not exclusively, on the first and crucial phase of the demobilization process, namely, the quartering and disarmament of UNITA troops. The strategy for humanitarian assistance conceives of the quartering phase as an extensive workshop, in which the beneficiaries play an essential role in the implementation of the programmes.

38. Between December 1994 and February 1995, the Office conducted three feasibility studies to identify reintegration projects for under-age and disabled soldiers, and quick-impact projects for the resettlement of demobilized soldiers in rural areas. The Office also made a survey in April 1995 of 300 UNITA soldiers and 300 members of the Forças Armadas Angolanas, or the national army. The objective was to collect information concerning their social profile, educational background and social and economic expectations of reintegration into civilian life. This project, carried out in close collaboration with the general staff of FAA and UNITA, was the first formal survey by the United Nations in the UNITA areas. One of the basic findings of the survey was that 80 per cent of the soldiers hoped to return to their community of origin.

39. From February to May 1995, UCAH held several preparatory workshops with both FAA and UNITA to achieve consensus on the requirements and operational modalities for humanitarian assistance during the quartering process.

40. Beginning in May 1995, reconnaissance missions were dispatched to identify sites and plan for the construction of the future quartering areas. The reconnaissance teams were composed of technical personnel from UNAVEM III, UCAH, UNICEF, WFP, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and representatives of the Government and UNITA. The teams assessed the suitability of the sites in terms of infrastructure, logistics, humanitarian assistance requirements and security conditions, including land-mine hazards.

41. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General chairs the Demobilization Committee, comprising representatives of UNAVEM III and UCAH. At regular meetings of the Committee, the humanitarian and military aspects of the demobilization process are continuously being harmonized.

42. UCAH has created and chairs the Humanitarian Subcommittee for Demobilization and Reintegration, with participation by UNDP, WFP, UNICEF, WHO, IOM and national and international non-governmental organizations. The Subcommittee has been mainly concerned with the preparation of humanitarian assistance programmes for the quartering areas, and support for the demobilization and reintegration of vulnerable groups (under-age and war-disabled soldiers).

43. The section of the 1995 humanitarian appeal covering demobilization and reintegration was readjusted in June 1995 to take account of agreements reached between the Government and UNITA on the global incorporation of UNITA soldiers into FAA, and the extended and phased demobilization of FAA soldiers (see para. 56 below). The revised programme (available from the Department of Humanitarian Affairs) requires US$ 102.3 million worth of assistance, of which $52.3 million is for the first and crucial quartering phase. As of 22 August, $4.2 million had been pledged for the revised programme.

4. Mine action

44. Throughout the more than 30 years of warfare, all parties have used mines extensively, as a result of which more than 10 million mines may currently be active in almost all parts of Angola. It is estimated that Angola now has 70,000 amputees resulting from accidents with mines and unexploded ordnance, making it the country with the highest proportion of citizens crippled and maimed this way. At least an equal number of deaths have occurred from mines, but most go unreported because the victims die before reaching a medical facility where their injuries can be recorded. Records of minefields are also either sketchy or non-existent, and even those that have been made require verification because the back-and-forth nature of the war has resulted in many minefields being overlaid several times.

45. The demolition of roads, bridges and public works, and the extensive use of anti-vehicle and anti-personnel mines throughout the country, have left the national land transport system severely incapacitated and seriously affected the base for economic development. Some cities have been surrounded by mines, resulting in a siege-like situation where minefields must be crossed by those, primarily women, who wish to feed their families. United Nations agencies and NGO personnel are required to take similar risks to provide relief to these and other stricken communities. The deployment of UNAVEM III peace-keeping troops and the establishment of quartering areas for UNITA soldiers is also hampered by the existence of mines and damaged or destroyed bridges.

46. In early 1994, while the Lusaka peace talks were under way, a consultant carried out preparatory work for the creation of a United Nations institution that would coordinate mine action activities in Angola. As a result, a small Central Mine Action Office was established within UCAH in mid-1994. The Office plans and coordinates the following activities: mine awareness and avoidance; mine survey; mine clearance; training of Angolan managers and technicians; and support for the creation of the Angolan National Institute for the Removal of Explosive Obstacles (INAROE). Regular coordination meetings are held between UCAH and UNAVEM III in order to harmonize the humanitarian and military aspects of the mine action programme.

47. The mine situation is a long-term humanitarian issue which the Government of Angola has the responsibility to address, and for which purpose INAROE was created by governmental decree on 26 March 1995. Assisted by the United Nations in its initial stages, this institution will organize programmes to deal with all aspects of the mine problem.

48. In cooperation with UNAVEM III, the Central Mine Action Office has developed a draft mine action plan for Angola, premised on the establishment of peaceful conditions under the terms of the Lusaka Protocol. The plan, which is currently being reviewed by the Constitutive Committee of INAROE, has the following main features: (a) extensive surveys of mined areas; (b) public education and awareness about mines; (c) training of Angolans in all aspects of mine action; and (d) mine clearance in priority areas. Activities and preparations have started up under all four of these components.

49. The mine survey programme follows priorities established by UNAVEM III, INAROE and the Central Mine Action Office, with the current focus on the deployment of UNAVEM III peace-keepers and the establishment of quartering areas. Survey procedures are monitored by the Office. In cooperation with the Office, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), a non-governmental organization, has been carrying out a mine survey in four provinces since June 1995.

50. The Central Mine Action Office is coordinating the mine-awareness activities of all United Nations agencies and international and national non-governmental organizations. The Office is also carrying out fund-raising activities for public education and awareness. The main target groups of the mine-awareness programme are children, women, peasants, internally displaced persons and refugees. In September 1994, UNICEF started a mass media campaign, with mine-awareness spots on national television. UNICEF continues to take the lead role in this campaign, for which it has received more than US$ 850,000 out of the $1.8 million requested in its 1995 mine action appeal. The non-governmental organization Mine Advisory Group (MAG) is active in mine-awareness training in the province of Moxico and in refugee camps in Zambia and is planning to extend its activities to the province of Lunda Sul.

51. To date, the training of Angolans in mine-clearance techniques and procedures has been conducted by international NGOs. NPA, MAG, Halo Trust and Komitee Cap Anamur have been in the forefront of this effort and currently have a combined total of approximately 250 Angolan de-miners formed into 11 de-mining teams in the field under expatriate supervision. These teams provide mine-clearance support to humanitarian relief projects conducted by both United Nations agencies and international non-governmental organizations.

52. At the present time, limited mine clearance is undertaken on two levels, by various organizations and with different aims. Level one, whose objective is the deployment of the UNAVEM III peace-keeping troops to their areas of responsibility, entails clearance and verification of main supply routes by a mixture of UNAVEM III military engineers and FAA and UNITA sappers. Level two is the humanitarian de-mining effort, which is undertaken by non-governmental organizations. Three non-governmental organizations are currently active (NPA, MAG and Halo Trust), with another two possibly becoming involved in late 1995 or early 1996. The areas in which the non-governmental organizations work and the number of de-mining teams that they employ depends on their individual agreements with donors and the Government of Angola. The prevailing security situation is another factor limiting the extent of NGO activities.

III. PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE ACTION

A. Resettlement of internally displaced persons and returnees

53. With the opening of roads and the main planting season coming up in September, it is a priority task to help internally displaced persons return to their areas of origin, resettle and resume productive activities. The guidelines developed in mid-1995 now have to be translated into plans of action for all provinces. Mine-awareness campaigns have to be further expanded among the displaced and mine surveys and priority mine clearance carried out in their areas of destination in order to avoid accidents. Simultaneously, wherever there are military or security constraints on the return of displaced persons, efforts have to be made to obtain the necessary guarantees from the two parties.

54. A plan to distribute seeds and tools to displaced and other affected populations was prepared in July 1995. Under the coordination of FAO, more than 7,000 tons of seeds and over 1.2 million agricultural tools will be distributed for the main planting season starting in September. Funding has been secured for 85 per cent of the plan, but some seeds and tools may arrive too late for this season.

55. In June 1995, UNHCR signed a Letter of Understanding with the Government of Angola on the repatriation of refugees. The agreement foresees the creation of a repatriation committee responsible for promoting and organizing the return of the refugees and their integration in Angola. This repatriation programme is scheduled to start in July 1996 and will be implemented over a period of 30 months. Approximately 300,000 Angolans are refugees in other countries, mainly Zaire and Zambia. For the repatriation exercise, UNHCR needs a total of US$ 44 million.

B. Demobilization and reintegration

56. According to agreements reached between the Government of Angola and UNITA in early 1995, the demobilization of troops will take place in stages over a period of approximately 27 months. The quartering of an estimated 60,000 UNITA soldiers (three months) will be followed by the global incorporation of all UNITA soldiers into FAA and the phased demobilization and social reintegration of up to 100,000 combatants (24 months).

57. The humanitarian assistance programme prepared for the quartering phase has the following components: identification and registration; health care; food assistance; provision of relief and survival items; and civic training. UCAH is responsible for the coordination of all these activities, with the participation of UNITA, United Nations agencies and national and international non-governmental organizations. Following consultations between UCAH and the NGO community in Angola, 12 non-governmental organizations have been designated to implement multisectoral humanitarian programmes in the quartering areas. These non-governmental organizations, already operating in the provinces of their respective quartering areas, are making their final preparations for this special operation.

58. The quartering phase starts with the identification of the soldier. His name will be registered on a database, together with information on the community where he wishes to be resettled, his educational background and employment expectations, disabilities etc. UCAH will supply this information to all concerned government institutions, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations. This will facilitate the monitoring of the demobilization process, transport and resettlement arrangements and follow-up in the resettlement areas.

59. The objective of the health programme is to provide basic health care to the ex-UNITA soldiers in the quartering areas and their families living in the outskirts of the quartering areas. The target population is estimated at 350,000 people. The programme, set up jointly by the UNITA health authorities and the UCAH Demobilization and Reintegration Office, aims to strengthen the capacity of the local health-care system, thereby benefiting the needy populations even after the quartering phase has ended. Non-governmental organizations will play a significant role in the programme. WHO will provide technical assistance through the continued secondment of a health coordinator during the implementation phase. WHO will also directly implement the epidemiological surveillance and control measures for trypanosomiasis. UNICEF will supply kits of essential drugs, renewable supplies and equipment to be utilized for the set-up of health facilities and implementation of the health programme by the designated non-governmental organization.

60. The experience of past demobilization programmes has demonstrated the importance of adequate food supplies for the soldiers and their families. WFP has formulated a daily ration of foodstuffs for this purpose. In addition, UNICEF has developed special kits (simplified household kits, hygienic kits and blankets) to be distributed by the non-governmental organizations to the soldiers and their families at the beginning of the quartering phase.

61. The civic training programme incorporates information about the Lusaka Protocol, the ongoing peace process and the institutions of Angola; education for peace; literacy training; and sports and recreational activities. The micro-programmes will be implemented through the non-governmental organizations, with the participation of monitors provided by UNITA. Three communication media will be used: videos, radio programmes and graphic information, in Portuguese and local languages.

62. Assessments of proposed quartering areas are under way. UNAVEM III is organizing the construction and provision of infrastructure for the quartering areas. With the recent progress made in resolving various issues between the Government and UNITA, and the impetus imparted by the visit of the Secretary-General to Angola in mid-July, it is hoped that the quartering operation can start as early as the end of August 1995.

63. Humanitarian personnel for the quartering areas have started to arrive in Angola. There will be one UCAH Technical Officer in each quartering area, who will be responsible for coordinating all humanitarian assistance activities in the area, including the identification and registration of UNITA soldiers to be carried out by United Nations Volunteers.

64. An Angolan Institute for Reintegration is being set up to strengthen national long-term capacity for the coordination of reintegration activities. The Institute will ensure neutrality, autonomy and efficiency in the management of the reintegration process. It will work in a decentralized way, establishing provincial referral centres in resettlement areas with high levels of demobilized soldiers, and will assign specific functions to other Angolan institutions at the provincial and local levels. UNDP will provide technical assistance for the reintegration programmes, with the Institute for Reintegration as its national counterpart.

C. Mine action

65. One of the main priorities in the short term is organizing the Angolan Institute for the Removal of Explosive Obstacles. Local and international technical assistance is needed to build up the Institute's financial and personnel management, programming, monitoring and evaluation capacities. The immediate coordination of programmes and activities will be carried out by the UCAH Central Mine Action Office, with control being passed to the Institute by the expected completion of the UNAVEM III mission in early 1997.

66. Nationwide mine surveys have to be completed. The most immediate priority is the reconnaissance of quartering areas and the creation, at the Central Mine Action Office, of a database with information from the participating organizations (at present NPA, Halo Trust, MAG, Komitee Cap Anamur and SwedRelief). This database will initially show which roads and areas are known to be mined, which are thought to be mined and which are known to be clear of mines.

67. The mine-awareness activities will be expanded. Five international non-governmental organizations are now planning mine-awareness programmes in the provinces of Kwanza Norte, Malange, Bié, Kuando Kubango, Huíla and Benguela. Various Angolan non-governmental organizations have also presented mine-awareness projects to UCAH, seeking funds to start their educational programmes.

68. With regard to the training of Angolan de-mining personnel, steps are being taken by UNAVEM III and the Central Mine Action Office to establish a national de-mining school which will eventually be taken over by INAROE. Equipment is on order and military instructors and supervisors are preparing de-mining course syllabuses for the new school, projected to open in November 1995.

69. Mine clearance and verification will continue to expand in support of the deployment of UNAVEM III peace-keeping forces, opening of quartering areas, access for humanitarian assistance and the free circulation of people and goods.

D. Round-table conference

70. Within the context of the peace process and to consolidate the base for social and economic recovery, the Government requested UNDP assistance in preparing a Community Rehabilitation and National Reconciliation Programme for submission to the donor community. The Programme was developed with the

assistance of UNDP teams working an average of three weeks in each province; it is made up of specific provincial programmes aimed at rehabilitating the local production capacity and the socio-educative framework. The programme, which comes to approximately US$ 600 million, will be presented at a round-table meeting in Brussels on 25 September 1995.

71. As part of the round-table programme, UNDP will launch a major initiative for community development. The focus is on creating a base for sustainable human development and poverty alleviation by strengthening and empowering the local authorities and civil institutions. The first step will be to support the rehabilitation activities financed through the round-table meeting, with full participation of the stakeholders.

E. Other activities

72. The Government started a reform process in 1992; unfortunately, the resumption of war interrupted it. With peace in sight, the Government has started negotiations with the International Monetary Fund to set up a structural adjustment programme. In the meantime, however, two key decisions have already been put into practice: the return to a market economy and the adoption of a debt redemption strategy. UNDP is putting substantial resources into assistance to key central government structures in this respect.

73. A national programme for the reform of public administration was adopted in late 1994, with special emphasis on decentralization. UNDP is supporting this programme with substantial resources both from special funds and from the country indicative planning figure (IPF). The strategy is to concentrate on training and capacity-building activities in order to create a "critical mass" of trained reformers within the civil service. Implementation is just starting.

IV. ASSISTANCE BY MEMBER STATES AND OTHER DONORS

74. On 8 May 1995, the Secretary-General invited Member States and other donors to provide information on assistance extended to Angola in the framework of General Assembly resolution 48/202. Replies were received from the following States.

Finland

75. Finnish contributions to Angola in 1994/95 are as follows:

Organization	Amount (Markkaa)	Decision
WFP	3 000 000	8 May 1994
Finnish Red Cross/ International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	300 000	7 July 1994
Finnish Red Cross/ICRC	2 200 000	7 July 1994
UNICEF	2 000 000	30 November 1994
Total 1994	7 500 000	
UNICEF	2 000 000	25 April 1995
ICRC	1 400 000	6 June 1995

76. Finland is also considering a contribution to the United Nations mine-clearance programme in Angola.

Germany

77. The Government of Germany has contributed the following amounts (in deutsche mark) to humanitarian programmes and food and nutrition programmes in Angola:

Year	Humanitarian programmes	Food and nutrition programmes
1992	789 000	7 979 273
1993	2 154 355	6 581 657
1994	3 777 977	7 159 730
1995	2 746 000	2 300 000

78. In addition, in 1994, the Government sponsored a project of long-term rehabilitation and development in the amount of 5.3 million deutsche mark.

Italy

79. In order to assist with the special programme to support the peace process, the Government of Italy intends to provide financial and material resources in the amount of 29 billion lire through the following projects:

(a) Food supplements for infants in difficult circumstances;

(b) Support for the quartering and social reintegration of demobilized soldiers, in particular: (i) supply of seed and equipment to 36,000 demobilized soldiers; (ii) vocational training and provision of small loans for 10,000 demobilized soldiers;

(c) Rehabilitation of economic and social infrastructures.

80. Italy's eventual participation in such projects will be reviewed after the indications that emerge from the forthcoming UNDP round-table meeting. The projects could be implemented through further use of local funds and Italian food aid that can be distributed this year.

81. Italy will provide the Government of Angola with 2.65 billion lire worth of cereals; 2.7 billion lire worth of various products; and 5.38 billion lire worth of freeze-dried products, for a total amount of 10.73 billion lire, with no possibility of financial modifications in the above-mentioned subdivision of goods.

Japan

82. During the fiscal year 1994, the Government of Japan provided 11,970 tons of food through WFP for persons affected by the conflict in Angola, at an approximate cost of US$ 5.7 million. Japan also provided 500,000 Swiss francs through ICRC for relief assistance to refugees.

Luxembourg

83. In 1994, Luxembourg provided US$ 160,731 worth of humanitarian and emergency assistance to Angola.

Lesotho

84. The Kingdom of Lesotho, as a founding member of the Southern African Development Community, has some very important responsibilities that it coordinates on behalf of SADC. Lesotho has always fulfilled its commitments, both financial and otherwise, to the programme of work of SADC.

85. While Lesotho has not been able to extend material assistance towards the alleviation of the humanitarian difficulties in Angola, it has always demonstrated its strong solidarity with the Government and the people of Angola in coping with the difficult situation that confronts them. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lesotho was part of the high-level representation from the Organization of African Unity that presented Angola's case to the Security Council in February 1995 when the Council took up the question of UNAVEM III.

Spain

86. In 1995, programmes amounting to 662,426,000 pesetas will be carried out in the following sectors: health, education, infrastructure rehabilitation, equipment and food aid.

87. At the same time, more than 600 million pesetas will be provided to non-governmental organizations for education projects and assistance to displaced persons and refugees.

Switzerland

88. Below is a list of contributions, in cash and in kind, of the Swiss Confederation to the population in need in Angola:

1994
(SwF)

To the Igreja Evangelica do Sudoeste in Benguela, for the purchase of fabric and used clothes, and for the Kalukembe Hospital: 100,000

To the International Committee of the Red Cross, for the emergency aid programme, the purchase of 1,900 tons of maize for the victims of the conflict, seeds, agricultural equipment, and the financing of 900 tons of beans: 3,510,000

To the Swiss Red Cross, for goods for the population in need in the Huambo region: 150,000

To UNICEF, for the emergency aid programme, water supply - Kuito/Kunje: 1,000,000

To Caritas: 85,250.90

Total contributions (in cash and in kind): 4,845,250.90

1995 (as of 31 May)
(SwF)

To the Igreja Evangelica do Sudoeste in Benguela, for the building of a small logistics base to be used for medical activities in the south-western part of the country: 50,000

To the Luanda development workshop, for the peri-urban emergency programme in water and sanitation in Luanda: 200,000

To the International Committee of the Red Cross at Geneva, for the emergency appeal in 1995: 1,000,000

To the Igreja Evangelica do Sudoeste in Benguela, for the purchase of Swiss milk products for distribution to needy persons: 300,000

Total contributions (in cash and in kind): 1,550,000

V. OBSERVATIONS

89. The signing of the Lusaka Protocol has sparked hopes for a new era of peace and reconstruction in Angola. The international community, by providing massive humanitarian assistance during the civil conflict and fielding a peace-keeping operation in support of the Lusaka Protocol, has demonstrated remarkable solidarity with the people of Angola in their aspirations for a secure and prosperous future. The parties to the peace agreement bear a heavy responsibility for avoiding tensions and conflicts that could undermine those aspirations.

90. Through its monitoring and verification activities, as provided in the Lusaka Protocol, UNAVEM is playing a pivotal role in the consolidation of the peace process in Angola. Its efforts in facilitating national reconciliation and in fostering mutual trust between the Angolan parties have contributed to creating an environment in which the goal of economic and social rehabilitation can be pursued. It is expected that the ongoing deployment of United Nations infantry units will help to further consolidate that environment.

91. The economic rehabilitation of Angola presents a formidable challenge to the Angolan people, their leaders and the international community. It is generally believed that the 1992-1994 conflict has been more devastating for the country than all the previous years of war put together. As previously inaccessible areas are visited and assessed, the overall picture that is emerging is one of destitution, massive destruction of physical infrastructure and severe disruption of socio-economic activities. This dismal picture is compounded by the large number of war-mutilated Angolans, the current estimate being 70,000. The extent of pollution by land-mines and unexploded ordnance, already formidable in 1991, has further increased and will affect productive activities and the lives of thousands of Angolans for decades. Only with lasting peace will Angola be able to surmount the present dependency on humanitarian assistance and resume a course of socio-economic development.